

WE CLAIM:

1    1.    A method for providing information to a radio appliance playing audio content  
2    broadcast by a radio station, comprising the steps of:  
3                 receiving a request for information about the audio content from the radio  
4                 appliance;  
5                 receiving information from the radio appliance indicating the identity of the audio  
6                 content;  
7                 accessing a database that contains the requested information; and  
8                 delivering the requested information to the radio appliance.

1    2.    The method of claim 1, wherein the request for information, the audio program  
2    identity information, and the requested information are delivered through the Internet.

1    3.    The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the  
2    audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and an indicator used to  
3    identify the radio station.

1    4.    The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the  
2    audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and a digitized form of the  
3    audio content.

1    5.    The method of claim 1, wherein the requested information are details of a musical  
2    work.

1    6.     The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include the identity  
2     of a musical work and the title of a CD that contains the musical work.

1    7.     The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include purchasing  
2     information about the musical work.

1    8.     The method of claim 1, wherein:  
2              the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a  
3              commercial transaction; and  
4              the requested information is details about the commercial transaction.

1    9.     The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction  
2     include product details.

1    10.    The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction  
2     includes information about completing the commercial transaction.

1    11.    The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving a request to  
2     complete the commercial transaction encouraged by the advertisement.

1    12.    The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving information indicating the  
2     identity of the audio content is done frequently enough to identify all the audio content  
3     being played on the radio appliance.

1    13.    The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2    indicating when the radio appliance has its volume adjusted.

1    14.    The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2    indicating when the radio appliance is tuned to a different broadcast station.

1    15.    The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2    indicating when the radio appliance is turned off.

1    16.    An appliance, comprising:  
2         a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio content broadcast by  
3                 radio stations;  
4         user controls to request information about the audio content.

1    17.    The appliance of claim 16, further comprising a communications device that  
2    transmits data about the information requested with the user controls.

1    18.    The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is a musical work

1    19.    The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is an advertisement.

1    20.    The appliance of claim 17, wherein the user controls can be used to complete a  
2    commercial transaction.

- 1 21. The appliance of claim 17, wherein:
  - 2 the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a
  - 3 commercial transaction; and
  - 4 the user controls can be used to complete the commercial transaction encouraged
  - 5 by the advertisement.

1    22. An appliance, comprising:

2                 a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio programs broadcast

3                         by radio stations, the radio having features that include adjustable volume,

4                         and radio frequency tuning;

5                 user controls used to access the features; and

6                 a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were

7                         accessed with the user controls.

- 1    23. A method for monitoring volume on an Internet appliance, comprising the steps
- 2    of:
  - 3       receiving a request to access media content available on the Internet; and
  - 4       receiving information relating to how the volume was modified while the media
  - 5       content was received on the Internet appliance.

- 1    24. An Internet appliance, comprising:
  - 2        an Internet media device for receiving and decoding media received from sources
  - 3                on the Internet, the Internet media device having features that include
  - 4                adjustable volume;
  - 5        user controls used to access the features; and
  - 6        a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were
  - 7                accessed with the user controls.

1 25. The Internet appliance of claim 24, wherein the Internet media device is a  
2 personal computer with a software codec.